Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A kit comprising a plurality of fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) hybridization probes comprising:

a first single-stranded oligonucleotide carrying a FRET donor entity and at least one second entity, said second entity being a compound which is capable of quenching fluorescence of said FRET donor entity; and

a second single-stranded oligonucleotide carrying a FRET acceptor entity but not carrying a FRET donor entity.

19. (Currently Amended) The kit ~~plurality~~ of claim 18 ~~1~~, wherein the FRET donor entity and the second entity are carried on adjacent nucleotides of the first oligonucleotide.

20. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising a ~~set of~~ 3 oligonucleotides, comprising a first oligonucleotide and a second oligonucleotide capable of acting as a pair of amplification primers for a template dependent nucleic acid amplification reaction, further characterized in that said first oligonucleotide and a third oligonucleotide are each labeled with one corresponding member of a FRET pair consisting of a FRET donor entity and a FRET acceptor entity,

wherein the oligonucleotide carrying the FRET donor entity further carries ~~is carrying~~ at least one second entity, said second entity being a compound which is capable of quenching fluorescence of said FRET donor entity; and

wherein the oligonucleotide carrying the FRET acceptor entity does not carry a FRET donor entity.

21. (Currently Amended) The kit ~~set~~ of claim 20 ~~3~~, wherein FRET donor entity and the second entity are carried on adjacent nucleotides of the oligonucleotide carrying the FRET donor entity.

22. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a nucleic acid sample and the first and second oligonucleotides ~~a pair of hybridization probes~~ according to claim 18 ~~1~~ or ~~a set of~~ the 3 oligonucleotides according to claim 20 ~~3~~.

23. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising a pair of hybridization probes according to claim 18 ~~1~~ or ~~a set of~~ the 3 oligonucleotides according to claim 20 ~~3~~ and at least one other component selected from a group consisting of a nucleic acid amplification primer, a template dependent nucleic acid polymerase, at least one deoxynucleoside triphosphate and a buffer for template dependent nucleic acid amplification reaction.

24-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising a plurality of fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) hybridization probes comprising:

a first single-stranded oligonucleotide carrying a FRET donor entity and a nitroindole moiety capable of quenching fluorescence of said FRET donor entity; and

a second single-stranded oligonucleotide carrying a FRET acceptor entity.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) The kit ~~plurality~~ of claim 32, wherein the FRET donor entity and the nitroindole moiety ~~second entity~~ are carried on adjacent nucleotides of the first oligonucleotide.

35. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising a ~~set of~~ 3 oligonucleotides, comprising a first oligonucleotide and a second oligonucleotide capable of acting as a pair of amplification primers for a template dependent nucleic acid amplification reaction, further characterized in that said first oligonucleotide and a third oligonucleotide are each labeled with one corresponding member of a FRET pair consisting of a FRET donor entity and a FRET acceptor entity,

wherein the oligonucleotide carrying the FRET donor entity further carries ~~is carrying~~ a nitroindole moiety capable of quenching fluorescence of said FRET donor entity .

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) The kit ~~set~~ of claim 35, wherein FRET donor entity and the nitroindole moiety ~~second entity~~ are carried on adjacent nucleotides of the oligonucleotide carrying the FRET donor entity.

38. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a nucleic acid sample and a pair of hybridization probes according to claim 32 ~~33~~ or ~~a set of~~ the 3 oligonucleotides according to claim 35.

39. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising a pair of hybridization probes according to claim 32 ~~33~~ or ~~a set of~~ the 3 oligonucleotides according to claim 35 and at least one other component selected from a group consisting of a nucleic acid amplification primer a template dependent nucleic acid polymerase, at least one deoxynucleoside triphosphate and a buffer for template dependent nucleic acid amplification reaction.